

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A rodent terminating device, comprising:
 - a base having a first end, ~~and~~ a second end and a top base surface;
 - a snap bar pivotably coupled to the base, the snap bar being configured to rotate between a first default position adjacent to the first end of the base and a second loaded position adjacent to the second end of the base, the snap bar being spring biased toward the first position, the snap bar having at least one axial section and one transverse section, the snap bar defining a pivot line; and
 - a trigger configured to engage the snap bar in the second loaded position, the trigger including a substantially straight horizontal trigger portion and ~~a~~ an integral vertical trigger portion extending upwardly from the horizontal trigger portion, the vertical trigger portion comprising a catch adapted to releasably engage the transverse section of the snap bar, the substantially straight horizontal trigger portion extending beneath the pivot line of the snap bar,
 - wherein the trigger comprises a pivot point above the top base surface, and
 - wherein the trigger is configured to pivot above the top base surface between an engaged position, where the catch is engaged with the snap bar in the second loaded position, and a disengaged position where the catch is disengaged from the snap bar.

2. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the vertical trigger portion has an angle between 70 to 110 degrees with respect to the horizontal trigger portion.

3. (Original) The device of Claim 2, wherein the horizontal trigger portion is substantially perpendicular to the vertical trigger portion.

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The device of Claim ~~5~~1, wherein the horizontal trigger portion is suspended above the base when the trigger is in the engaged position.

7. (Currently amended) The device of ~~Claim 4~~, Claim 1, further comprising an anchor pivotably coupling the trigger to the base.

8. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein the horizontal trigger portion comprises a platform.

9. (Original) The device of Claim 8, further comprising an adhesive material disposed on the platform.

10. (Original) The device of Claim 9, further comprising a rodent attractant disposed on top of the platform.

11. (Original) The device of Claim 9, further comprising a removable cover disposed over the adhesive material on the platform.

12. (Original) The device of Claim 7, wherein the horizontal trigger portion comprises a stem extending between the platform and the vertical trigger portion, the stem including a bend such that the platform is disposed further upwardly away from the base.

13. (Original) The device of Claim 1, wherein:
the vertical trigger portion comprises a first side facing the first end of the base and a second side facing the second end of the base; and
the catch is disposed on the second side of the vertical trigger portion.

14. (Currently amended) A rodent terminating device, comprising:

a base having a first base end, ~~and a second base end~~ and a top base surface;

a snap bar rotatable between a first rest position adjacent to the first base end and a second loaded position adjacent to the second base end, the snap bar being rotatably coupled to the base and spring biased toward the first rest position, the snap bar defining a pivot line;

a trigger pivotably coupled to the base, the trigger comprising a substantially straight horizontal trigger portion having a horizontal platform and an integral vertical trigger portion substantially perpendicular to, and depending upwardly from, the horizontal trigger portion, the vertical trigger portion comprising a catch configured to releasably engage the snap bar in the second loaded position, the trigger comprising a pivot point above the top base surface,

wherein the horizontal platform is suspended above the base when the catch is engaged with the snap bar in the second loaded position and

wherein the horizontal trigger portion extends beneath the pivot line of the snap bar.

15. (Original) The device of Claim 14, wherein:

the horizontal platform is included in a horizontal trigger portion;

the catch is included in a vertical trigger portion; and

the vertical trigger portion is substantially perpendicular to the horizontal trigger.

16. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 15, wherein the trigger comprises a bend between the vertical trigger portion and the horizontal trigger portion, the trigger defining a hole adjacent to the bend, the device further comprising an anchor extending through the bend and pivotably coupling the trigger to the base at the bend.

17. (Original) The device of Claim 14, further comprising an adhesive material disposed on top of the horizontal platform.

18. (Original) The device of Claim 17, further comprising a rodent attractant disposed on top of the horizontal platform.

19. (Original) The device of Claim 17, further comprising a removable cover disposed over the horizontal platform.

20. (Currently amended) A rodent terminating device, comprising:
a base having a first end₁ ~~and a second end~~ and a top base surface;
a snap bar rotatably coupled to the base, the snap bar being rotatable between a spring biased, rest position and a loaded position, the snap bar defining a snap zone when disposed in the rest position and defining a pivot line; and
a one-piece trigger having a substantially straight horizontal trigger portion and an integral vertical trigger portion extending upwardly from the horizontal trigger portion, the horizontal trigger portion including a horizontal platform disposed in the snap zone₁, and the vertical trigger portion including a catch disposed outside of the snap zone₁,
wherein the trigger comprises a pivot point above the top base surface.

21. (Original) The device of Claim 20, wherein the catch is included in a vertical portion of the trigger and the horizontal platform is included in a horizontal portion of the trigger.

22. (Original) The device of Claim 20, wherein the trigger is pivotable between an engaged position where the catch engages the snap bar in the loaded position, and a disengaged position where the catch is disengaged from the snap bar.

23. (Currently amended) A rodent terminating device, comprising:

a base having a top surface;

a snap bar rotatably coupled to the base along a pivot dividing line which divides the top surface of the base into a first operative half and a second non-operative half, the snap bar being spring biased to rotate toward the first operative half;

a one-piece trigger pivotably coupled to the base at a single point of contact above the top surface of the base, the one-piece trigger comprising a substantially straight horizontal trigger portion and an integral vertical trigger portion that extends upwardly from the horizontal trigger portion, the horizontal trigger portion comprising an integral platform at a distal end opposite to the vertical trigger portion, the horizontal trigger portion extending beneath the pivot dividing line of the snap bar, the vertical trigger portion comprising a catch configured to engage the snap bar at a position above the base.

24. (Original) The device of Claim 23, wherein the single point of contact is located in the non-operative half of the base.

25. (Original) The device of Claim 23, further comprising an anchor that pivotably couples the trigger to the base.